

There are two ways in which our industrial base is jeopardized. The first is the attempt to gut a program designed to allow the private industry and the defense industry to work together on high-technology projects. Certain defense requirements in the future will depend on innovative approaches, and by allowing the commercial sector to create dual use technologies that serve both defense and private industry needs we create a stronger defense.

The value of the Technology Reinvestment Program can be demonstrated by the joint venture ongoing at McClellan Air Force Base in my district with the U.S. auto industry to develop metal casting processes that will meet the Clean Air Act standards. Locally, the joint venture has the potential to create as many as 180 jobs over 5 years, most of which will be high-paying jobs for metallurgists, chemical engineers, industrial engineers, chemists, and foundry workers.

Add to this the proposal in the bill to take away money needed for environmental clean-up activities at military installations. The cost to clean up McClellan Air Force Base, for example, could be as high as \$10 billion. The long-term military value of bases like McClellan is diminished if cleanup is not addressed. Even worse these costs could be passed along to local communities through the base closure process to avoid the liability. The lack of cleanup would prevent any reuse of the facility, and the combined economic impact of job loss and no defense conversion would devastate the local economy.

These spending cuts are shortsighted. If we care about long-term defense readiness this is not the way to go. I consider both technology development and defense cleanup to be high priorities which we can not afford to sacrifice when other options exist.

TRIBUTE TO MCCARTER & ENGLISH

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I have the honor of acknowledging the law firm of McCarter & English during its sesquicentennial celebration. Originally founded in 1845, and headquartered in my congressional district in the city of Newark since 1865, McCarter & English has the unique distinction as the State of New Jersey's oldest and largest law firm. McCarter & English has a distinguished past that is synonymous with the legal and business activities of the State. A majority of the attorneys with the firm have played a role in the civic life of the State or have been appointed to State and Federal benches.

McCarter & English has had several famous clients including Annie Oakley and the great inventor, Thomas A. Edison. I am pleased that I was able, with the help of my colleagues, to secure an appropriation from Congress to preserve the endangered Thomas Edison Historic Site in West Orange, NJ, which houses important papers and artifacts.

McCarter & English has always supported charitable, educational, cultural, and civic organizations including area hospitals, universities, and theaters. Many of the firm's partners have taught at area law schools and pro-

vided pro-bono services for many of my constituents.

In closing, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating McCarter & English on its 150th anniversary. The firm has never wavered in its commitment to the city of Newark, despite the difficult challenges the city has experienced in the last 25 years. McCarter & English has played an important role in the revitalization of downtown Newark. The firm has made donations to the new arts center in Newark as well as several other projects. I wish McCarter & English continued success and prosperity for another 150 years to come.

IN HONOR OF THE DOMINICAN RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL SOCIETY OF ELIZABETH, NJ, AND THE DOMINICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the participants of the Third Annual Flag Raising Event being held on February 25, 1995, by the Dominican Recreational and Cultural Society. I would also like to recognize all my Dominican-American constituents who celebrate the independence of their homeland on February 27, 1995.

The Dominican Recreational and Cultural Society has dedicated itself to helping the Hispanic community. This organization serves its community well by organizing events throughout the year that emphasize the contributions of Dominican-Americans to this great Nation. It strives to bring a little of the Dominican Republic into the lives of area Hispanics.

The flag raising will not only be an opportunity to honor the Dominican Republic, but also to celebrate the life of Juan Pablo Duarte. Duarte is not only the father of this great Nation but is considered a hero throughout Latin America. A young idealist and nationalist, he provided the inspiration and courage for the Dominican independence movement. He began a resistance movement called La Trinitaria, or The Trinity, that would eventually help topple Haitian rule in the Dominican Republic.

Duarte left his beloved home in search of support from other Latin American nations. Unfortunately, Duarte fell ill while in the island of Curacao and was not able to see his homeland gain independence. However, under the leadership of Francisco del Rosario and Ramon Mella, a group of rebels launched their own uprising which succeeded on February 27, 1844.

Today, the Dominican Republic is a beautiful nation and a good neighbor to the United States. Its cultural vitality and rich heritage has contributed to the mosaic painting that is the Hispanic community. It is my honor to salute such a great nation on its Independence Day and a great organization, the Dominican Recreational and Cultural Society on this most joyous event.

ON THE REINVENTION OF GOVERNMENT

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, during the past year, the American public has seen some remarkable changes in the Federal Government: It works better and costs less. Those two achievements are directly attributable to an initiative undertaken by the Clinton administration, which has been spearheaded by Vice President AL GORE. Its called the National Performance Review [NPR].

At the heart of this initiative has been the Federal employee. These employees brought their intellect, industry, and initiative to the task of reinventing Government. The result has been a smaller but more service-oriented workforce, the consolidation of programs to eliminate redundancy, cut costs, and increase efficiency. People are talking about what the Government did for them rather than what the Government did to them.

The NPR capitalized on the desire and ability of workers to eliminate waste, cut red tape, and produce a higher quality product. Teams of workers at agencies throughout the Government formed reinvention labs and began generating ideas for how to improve customer service. The labs' successes have been recognized in countless ceremonies across the Nation honoring the heroes of reinvention. Let me share a couple of examples of what they have accomplished:

First, in my own city of Chicago, the Chicago District of the U.S. Customs Service found a way to put their customers in inspection lines by airline passengers entering the United States at O'Hare International Airport. They put new informed compliance procedures in place which decreased the intrusion into the lives of the law-abiding travelers, while at the same time increasing the effectiveness of their law enforcement operation. The time spent waiting in line is down, the district now collects over \$4 million a day in duties, and the number of wanted felons apprehended has dramatically increased.

Another example from the Chicago area can be found at the North Central VA Medical Center. Last fall, the center's managed care system development group won one of the Vice President's Hammer Awards. They got it for implementing a new method of patient care which made customer satisfaction the No. 1 priority. They adopted a managed care approach based on the primary care team concept, monitored through an integrated information and accounting system. Essential support services were incorporated and those not initially available, such as surgery, were created through innovative collaborations and partnerships with external providers.

Since 1993, the number of enrollees in the Center's managed health care plan has increased fivefold and the number of acute days of hospital care per 1,000 enrollees fell 85 percent. The annual potential savings associated with these changes are estimated to exceed \$15 million.

Its clear from these examples and the others you will hear that Federal workers know how to change the Government so that it works much better. They just needed to be

empowered to make change. That's what the NPR has done. Its given Government workers the freedom to try something new.

Eliminating bureaucracy through reengineering Government programs reflects just one area for action set out in the NPR report. There are 384 innovative recommendations contained in the report, covering such matters as work force restructuring, agency streamlining, reforming procurement practices, expanding the use of information technology, and improving regulatory systems.

While many of the NPR recommendations were the type that could be acted upon immediately at the agency level, 173 required congressional action to be fully implemented.

During the 103d Congress, 30 bills containing NPR action items were signed into law. Among the most notable are the Government Management Reform Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-356), the Federal Acquisition Improvement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-335), the Federal Workforce Restructuring Act (Public Law 103-226), and the Federal Employee Family Friendly Leave Act (Public Law 103-338).

While it will take several more years to see the NPR agenda fully enacted, the measures I have listed were passed by wide margins and with bipartisan support. This is a clear indication that a government that works better and costs less is something we all seek.

I certainly hope that Republicans will continue to cooperate with this Democratic initiative and work with us to get more NPR legislation passing during the 104th Congress. The American people deserve the continued results it will bring.

The September 1994 report on the NPR's first year included 1,500 customer service standards which constitute a major step toward a results-driven Federal Government. Let me share just a few examples of these standards. The IRS has promised that taxpayers will receive their tax refunds within 40 days if they file a paper return and 21 days if they file electronically. The SBA has promised to complete reviews of loan applications within 3 days, based on a newly developed one page application.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission promised that the public will be able to report on and learn about unsafe products 24 hours a day by calling an 800 number. The Commerce Department has promised to provide the latest information on overseas markets on a compact disc which it will mail within 24 hours of a customer making contract.

Each of these reflects a standard that is clear and measurable. Knowing just what to expect from Government is becoming a new and rewarding experience for many, thanks to the NPR.

During the months ahead, the Government Reform and Oversight Committee will closely examine the changes the NPR has wrought, as well as the new administration proposals that make up the second phase of its reinvention effort.

While much has already been accomplished, there are still Americans who are dissatisfied with how their Government works. They present the challenge to all of us—rank-in-file Federal employees and Members of Congress alike—to improve the responsive-

ness of Government and the quality of service our Government gives.

TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR LAURENCE W. "BILL" LANE, JR.

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ambassador Laurence W. "Bill" Lane, Jr., an outstanding citizen of California's 14th Congressional District who has been selected to receive the National Parks and Conservation Association's 1994 William Penn Mott, Jr., Conservationist of the Year Award in honor of his lifelong commitment to parks.

From the moment Ambassador Lane arrived in California in 1928, he has distinguished himself in the fields of conservation, government, and commerce.

While a student at Stanford University, he was a packer and mountain guide in Sequoia and Yosemite National Parks. Over the years, his love of nature led him to chair the California Desert Conservation Area Advisory Committee, serve on the President's National Advisory Committee on Oceans and Atmosphere, chair the President's National Parks Centennial Commission, and serve as the Secretary of the Interior's representative on the Steering Committee for the 75th anniversary of the National Parks. Most deservedly, he is a recipient of the Secretary of the Interior's Conservation Service Award.

In government, he has served at the international level as U.S. Ambassador to Australia and Nauru, as well as Commissioner General and Chairman of the Foreign Delegation of the International Ocean Exposition in Japan with the rank of Ambassador. I am also very proud of the service he provided closer to home as the first elected mayor and councilman of Portola Valley, where he currently resides.

Ambassador Lane became well known to many people as the publisher of Sunset magazine and chairman of Lane Publishing Co., now merged with Time Warner. He is still a consultant to Time Warner and a member of the board of Time, Inc.

Despite all of his activities, he has still found time to be a devoted husband to his wife, Jean, and a caring father for their three children—Sharon, Bob, and Brenda.

Mr. Speaker, Ambassador Lane is truly an exceptional individual who has performed outstanding work for our nation and our national parks. I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for being awarded the prestigious William Penn Mott, Jr., Conservationist of the Year Award.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues an arti-

cle in yesterday's Washington Post by John Solomon outlining those who profited from the health care debacle last year. Once again, the Clinton administration has demonstrated that those in their inner circles can benefit while the rest of middle-class America wrestles with the ongoing problems associated with the lack of health care coverage. According to this article, there are some who made as much as \$100,000 in consulting fees. It seems to me that we as a Congress can and will do better—and at no extra cost to the American people.

I hope my colleagues will take the time to read this informative and enlightening article.

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 22, 1995]

HEALTH CARE REFORM PLANNERS: INNER CIRCLE, TOP FEES

(By John Solomon)

The White House touted the long hours and sacrifices of those who crafted its ill-fated health care plan, but it turns out that the work brought healthy rewards for a small cadre of advisers and contractors.

Some businesses got six-figure contracts. For select advisers, there were consulting fees as high as \$49 an hour, allowing some to be paid up to \$100,000, according to a review of records released this week.

The payments were made in spite of a warning from White House lawyers to use full-time government employees, not consultants.

The Clinton administration has declined to say how much was spent developing its health care plan. But amid the ruins of President Clinton's Health Security Act, records obtained by the Associated Press under the Freedom of Information Act lay bare a multimillion-dollar hired bureaucracy.

The Republican Congress has begun its own review.

The primary beneficiaries were professional consultants, with specialties ranging from projecting long-term health costs to writing legislation.

In all, the White House tapped about 1,000 people for work and advice on the plan. Most of the high-profile experts worked for free.

The few who were paid were members of a White House inner circle, hired as consultants for an extended period to work on Hillary Rodham Clinton's health task force and working groups and beyond, although White House lawyers cautioned against it.

"To avoid ethical difficulties, the members of the cluster groups, and especially the heads of issue working groups, must be full government employees," aide Atul Gawande wrote health adviser Ira Magaziner in a Feb. 2, 1993, memo.

Gawande said the White House counsel's office had advised that payments were "not clearly in violation of any law" but it "would give antagonists leverage for attacking us in the press and possibly in legal channels."

Avis LaVelle, assistant secretary for public affairs at the Department of Health and Human Services, said the consultant payments were necessary to attract top caliber advice without expanding the permanent federal work force.